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Non-governmental organizations

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2017 resumed session

New York, 22-31 May and 12 June 2017

Summary

At its 2017 resumed session, held from 22 to 31 May and on 12 June 2017, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had before it 385 applications for consultative status, including 221 applications deferred from earlier sessions. Of the non-governmental organizations submitting those applications, the Committee recommended 191 for consultative status, deferred 162 for further consideration at its regular session in 2018 and closed without prejudice consideration of 30 applications of non-governmental organizations that had failed to respond to queries over two consecutive sessions of the Committee. The Committee deferred consideration of the three requests for reclassification of consultative status that were before it and of one request for a merger. The Committee considered five requests for a change of name, took note of four of those requests and deferred one. It also had before it 184 new quadrennial reports, of which it took note of 174. The Committee heard 20 representatives of the non-governmental organizations that attended the session.

The present report contains seven draft decisions on matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council.

By draft decision I, the Council would:

(a) Grant consultative status to 191 non-governmental organizations;

(b) Note that the Committee decided to take note of the change of name of four non-governmental organizations;

(c) Note that the Committee took note of the quadrennial reports of 196 non-governmental organizations, including new and deferred reports;

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(d) Close without prejudice consideration of the request for consultative status made by 30 non-governmental organizations after the organizations had failed to respond to queries over the course of two consecutive sessions of the Committee;

(e) Note the withdrawal of applications by two non-governmental organizations.

By draft decision II, the Council would decide to withdraw the consultative status of the non-governmental organization International Chamber of Commerce, owing to a change in its status at the United Nations.

By draft decision III, the Council would suspend, for a period of one year, the consultative status of 128 organizations with outstanding quadrennial reports.

By draft decision IV, the Council would decide to reinstate the consultative status of 30 organizations that had submitted their outstanding quadrennial reports.

By draft decision V, the Council would decide to withdraw the consultative status of 128 organizations with continued outstanding quadrennial reports.

By draft decision VI, the Council would approve the provisional agenda for the 2018 session of the Committee.

By draft decision VII, the Council would take note of the present report.

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I. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

Draft decisions for adoption by the Council

1. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

The Economic and Social Council decides:

(a) To grant consultative status to the following 191 non-governmental organizations:

Special consultative status

ABC Tamil Oli

ACE

Action pour la promotion du développement

Adelphi Consult GmbH

Afectividad y Sexualidad

African Trade Center

Aid Organization

Al-Hasaniya Moroccan Women's Project

Albert Kunstadter Family Foundation

All Win Network

Alliance des avocats pour les droits de l'homme

Alliance internationale pour la défense des droits et des libertés

Alliance pour la solidarité et le partage en Afrique-Jeunesse pour intégration culturelle et sociale

AMFORHT

Asia Injury Prevention Foundation

Asian Marine Conservation Association

Asociación Cubana de Limitados Físico-Motores

Asociación Española de Directivos, AED-1996

Asociación Pro-Bienestar de la Familia Colombiana "Profamilia"

Association Adala-justice

Association culturelle des Tamouls en France

Association debout femmes autochtones du Congo

Association marocaine de planification familiale

Association mauritanienne pour la promotion de la famille

Association M'zab prévention routière et développement

Association Thendral

Association d'entraide médicale Guinée

Association de la continuité des générations

Association des relais communautaires d'Oshwé

Association for Protection of Maternity, Infancy and Family João e Maria

Association mauritanienne pour la transparence et le développement

Association of Former International Civil Servants for Development

Associação Brasileira dos Organizadores de Festivais de Folclore e Artes Populares

Associação de Jovens Engajamundo

Autonomous Non-Profit Organization Ethnocultural Association Elleyada

Biedrība "Mūsdienu Latvijas Teritoriju Apdzīvojošās Krievvalodīgās Pamattautas Asociācija"

Bäuerliche Erzeugergemeinschaft Schwäbisch Hall

Canadian Council for Refugees

Caucasian Jews World Congress

Center for Development Support Initiatives

Center for Media and Peace Initiative

Centre for Disaster Risk and Crisis Reduction

Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research

Centre for Policy Dialogue

Centre for Youth and Literacy Development

Centre for the Sustainable Use of Natural and Social Resources (CSNR)

Centre international de recherche — Action pour un développement durable

Centrul European Pentru Prevenirea Adictiilor

Chia-Funkuin Foundation

China Academy of Culture

China-Africa Business Council

Collectif haïtien des droits humains

Comisión Unidos vs Trata

Comité des observateurs des droits de l'homme

Community Empowerment and Development Initiative, Warri

Compassion in World Farming

Conglomeration of Bengal's Hotel Owners

Creators Union of Arab

Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe

Drishti Foundation Trust

Education Above All Foundation

Education, Communication and Development Trust

Equis: Justicia para las Mujeres

European Business Club Association

European Federation of Psychologists Associations

European Union of the Deaf

Family Planning Association of Bangladesh

Farmers Development Organization

Fondation Alkarama

Foreningen for Human Narkotikapolitikk

Foundation Sozopol

Foundation for Environmental Stewardship

Fundación Acción Pro Derechos Humanos

Fundación América Solidaria Internacional

Fundación Éforo

Fundação Abrinq pelos Direitos da Criança e do Adolescente

Fédération bruxelloise des institutions pour toxicomanes

GenderCC — Women for Climate Justice

Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue

Geo-Environmental Resource Association (GERAS)

Gestos Soropositividade Comunicação e Gênero

Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption

Gusenghwe

Haiti Cholera Research Funding Foundation

HAMS Harm Reduction Network

Heal the Land Initiative in Nigeria

Health in Action

Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light

Heavenly Shower of Peace Church of God

Help Not Handcuffs

Hope for Education

Hope for Women

Horizon d'échange et de lutte contre la pauvreté

Human Dignity

Humanitarian Care Malaysia Berhad

Ihsan Foundation for West Africa

IMPACT Initiatives

INA (Māori, Indigenous and South Pacific) HIV/AIDS Foundation

Initiative for Equality

Initiative for Youth Awareness on Climate Change

Initiative pour le développement de l'Afrique

Institut für Klimaschutz, Energie und Mobilität — Recht, Ökonomie und Politik

Institut international de recherches pour la paix à Genève

Institute of Sustainable Development

International Centre for Women Empowerment and Child Development

International Association for Religious Freedom, Coordinating Council for South Asia

International Centre for Development Initiatives

International Centre for Leadership Development Nigeria

International Disability Alliance

International Doctors for Healthier Drug Policies CIC

International Human Rights Council

International Mayor Communication Centre

International Right of Way Association

IOGT-NTO

Irene Menakaya School Onitsha

J P Foundation

James Madison University

Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation

Korea Disaster Relief

Korea Food for the Hungry International

Korea Spinal Cord Injury Association

Leadership for Environment and Development — Pakistan

Les œuvres sociales pour les actions de développement

Lokmanya Sewa Sangh Parle

Mary Robinson Foundation

Medical Women's Association of Nigeria

Millennium Network for Community Development Initiative

Mor Çatı Kadın Sığınağı Vakfı

Nagorik Uddyog

Namaa Association of Social Development

Navjivan Foundation

Neighbourhood Community Network

New York Encounter

Niger Delta Budget Monitoring Group

Nigerian Council

NoBox Transitions Foundation

Öğretmen Akademisi Vakfı

Organization Earth

Orji Uzor Kalu Foundation

Pakistan Council for Social Welfare and Human Rights

Pan African Institute for Entrepreneurship and Community Development

Partnership for Change

PathFinders

Peace Foundation Pakistan

Pirate Parties International Headquarters

Positive Planet

Professional Women's Network Madrid

Project 1948 Foundation

Public Organization "Public Advocacy"

Qatar Foundation for Social Work

Rebirth Charity Society

Red Elephant Foundation

Roads of Success

Rwenzori Center for Research and Advocacy

SAE International

Sadakatasi Dernegi

Samaj Kalyanka Lagi Yuwa Nepal

Saudi Green Building Forum

Save Our Needy Organization

Saviour USA — One World Charity

Sense International, India

Settlement Services International

Slum Child Foundation

Small and Medium-Scale Entrepreneurship Fundamentals Foundation

Sociedad Cubana para la Promoción de las Fuentes Renovables de Energía y el Respeto Ambiental (Cubasolar)

Society for Environment and Development

Society for Roots for Equity

Society for the Widows and Orphans

Société civile africaine sur la société de l'information, réseau pour les TIC et le développement

Somali Youth Development Foundation

Stichting Samenwerkingsverband IKV — Pax Christi

Stichting Simavi

Sulabh Sanitation Mission Foundation

Sunfull Movement

The Brooke

Trust in Development

Voice of the Youth

WePower — Women's Electoral Power for the Advancement of Women's Leadership in Israel

Win the War! Against Violence

Women and Child Watch Initiatives

Women and Media Collective

Women Striving for Brighter Tomorrow

Women's Rights Center

Women's Voices Now

World Academy of Art and Science

World Martial Arts Union

Youth Foundation for Development, Education and Leadership

Youth for a Better World

Youth Social Service Organization, Pulpally

Zéro pauvre Afrique

(b) To note that the Committee decided to take note of the change of name of the following four non-governmental organizations:

Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute (special, 2014) to C-Fam

Fondation Suisse Maroc pour ie développement durable (special, 2010) to Fondation VIMANIS

Stichting West European Confederation of Maritime Technology Societies (special, 2016)

Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance (special, 2012)

(c) To note that the Committee took note of the quadrennial reports of the following 196 non-governmental organizations:

AARP (2011-2014)

Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia

ActionAid (2011-2014)

Advocates for Human Rights

Africa culture internationale

African Women's Development and Communication Network

Aland Islands Peace Institute

Alulbayt Foundation

American Civil Liberties Union

Arab Commission for Human Rights

Arab Lawyers Union (2011-2014)

Art of Living Foundation

Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women

Asociación para el Desarrollo "Foro Rural Mundial"

Association graines de paix

BAOBAB for Women's Human Rights (2011-2014)

Belgrade Centre for Human Rights (2011-2014)

Bharat Sevashram Sangha

Bread of Life Development Foundation

Catholic Medical Mission Board

Centre for Democracy and Development (2011-2014)

Centre for Human Rights

Cesvi Fondazione

China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (2011-2014)

Climate Institute

Commission nationale des femmes travailleuses de Guinée (2011-2014)

Community and Family Services International

Conseil international du sport militaire (2011-2014)

Coordination française du lobby européen des femmes

Corporación Excelencia en la Justicia

Corporation of Opportunity and Jointly Action

Daya Pertiwi Foundation

Development Innovations and Networks (2011-2014)

Development Promotion Group

Dignity — Danish Institute against Torture

Dutch Council for Refugees

Earth Day Network

East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project

Environic Foundation International

European Centre for Law and Justice (2011-2014)

European Women's Lobby (2011-2014)

Federation of Women Groups

Femmes Afrique solidarité

Fondation connaissance et liberté

Fondazione Giovanni e Francesca Falcone

Fonds pour le développement énergétique durable

Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief

Frathekk Foundation Common Initiative Group

Front Line: International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

Fundación Instituto Psicopedagógico Uruguayo

God's Harvest Foundation

Human Rights First (2007-2010)

Human Rights First (2011-2014)

Human Rights Now

Humane Society of the United States

Hunter College Center for Community and Urban Health

ICT for Peace Foundation

ICW Global: Comunidad Internacional de Mujeres Viviendo con VIH-SIDA

Initiative for Environment, Health and Social Development

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

Institute for Multicultural Communications Cooperation and Development

Instituto Qualivida (2011-2014)

International Association for Media and Communication Research

International Bar Association (2011-2014)

International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children

International Council of Scientific Unions (2011-2014)

International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations

International Federation of Hard of Hearing People

International Fellowship of Reconciliation (2011-2014)

International Humanist and Ethical Union

International Legal Foundation

International Planned Parenthood Federation, East and Southeast Asia and Oceania Region (2011-2014)

International Trade Union Confederation (2011-2014)

Islamic Relief USA

Islands First

IT for Change

JASMAR Human Security Organization (2011-2014)

Korean Assembly for Reunion of Ten Million Separated Families

Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped

Local Action Organization

Medical Women's International Association (2011-2014)

Mother Child Education Foundation

Mountain Women Development Organization

Mukono Multi-Purpose Youth Organization

NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (2011-2014)

National Centre for Sustainable Development

National Space Society

Nature Conservancy

Nigeria Model United Nations Society

Noble Institution for Environmental Peace

Non-Aligned Students and Youth Organization (2011-2014)

Non-Governmental Organizations Coordinating Committee

Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development (2011-2014)

Oidhaco, Bureau international des droits humains — action Colombie

Organisation mondiale des experts-conseils arbitres

Painted Children UK

Palestinian Centre for Human Rights

Pax Christi International (2011-2014)

Peacemaker Corps Foundation

Plan Suomi Säätiö (2011-2014)

Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2011-2014)

Press Council

Public Fund "Medialife"

Public Health Institute

Reality of Aid Network

Red de Educación Popular entre Mujeres

Rehab Group

Resources for the Future (2011-2014)

Restless Development

Restoration and Healing

Sakyadhita

Samuhik Abhiyan (2011-2014)

Sant Nirankari Mandal — Delhi

Self-Help Development Facilitators (2011-2014)

Service for Peace

Singapore Institute of International Affairs

Sister to Sister International

Smile of the Child

Somali Women Civil War Survivors

Stiftung Brot fuer Alle

Stree Atyachar Virodhi Parishad

Struggle for Change (2011-2014)

SustainUS

Sveriges Kvinnolobby

Swisscontact, Schweizerische Stiftung für technische Entwicklungs-zusammenarbeit

Tabitha Cumi Foundation

Talented Girl Students Trust

Tandem Project (2011-2014)

The Fishermen

Thin and High

Tlachinollan: Grupo de Apoyo a los Pueblos Indios de la Montaña

Tour opération et initiatives

Training for Women Network

Turkish Philanthropy Funds (2011-2014)

UMUT Foundation

Union Arabischer Mediziner in Europa

Union internationale des huissiers de justice et officiers judiciaires

United Nations Association of China

Universal Networking Digital Language Foundation

Unnayan Onneshan

UN-Women — Nationell Kommitté Sverige (2011-2014)

UPR Info

US Women Connect

USA Mali Charitable Association of NYC

VDE Prüf- und Zertifizierungsinstitut

Vie montante international

Vienna Economic Forum

Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund

VIVAT International

Voice of Change International

Voices of African Mothers

Vojenský a špitální Řád svatého *Lazara Jeruzalémského* — Bohemia

Volontari nel Mondo

Voluntary Service Overseas

Wahine Maori Queensland

Women Deliver

Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management

Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (2011-2014)

Women and Children First UK

Women's Consortium of Nigeria

Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights

Women's International Leag ue for Peace and Freedom

Won-Buddhism Women's Association

WOOMB International

Word of Life Christian Fellowship

World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action

World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (2011-2014)

World Association of Children's Friends (2011-2014)

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

World Barua Organization

World Family Organization

World Federation of Therapeutic Communities (2011-2014)

World Federation of United Nations Associations (2011-2014)

World Human Dimension

World Hunger Education Service

World Igbo Congress

World Organization of Governance and Competitiveness

World Organization of Former Students of Catholic Education

World Safety Organization (2011-2014) World Space Week Association

World Veterans Federation

World Welfare Association

World Wide Fund for Nature International

World Youth Alliance

World Youth Foundation

WorldWIDE Network Nigeria: Women in Development and Environment

Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance

Yachay Wasi

Yakutia — Our Opinion

Young Men's Hebrew Association of the City of New York

Young Professionals Forum

Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action

Yugoslav Youth Association Against AIDS: Youth of JAZAS

Zayed International Prize for the Environment

ZOA Vluchtelingenzorg

(d) To close without prejudice consideration of the requests for consultative status made by the following 30 non-governmental organizations after those organizations had failed, following three reminders over the course of two consecutive sessions of the Committee, to respond to queries posed to them by members of the Committee:

Action against Hunger USA

Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty

Africa Youth Growth Foundation

African Women Chartered Accountants Forum

Association d'assistance aux grands handicapés à domicile

Association for Human Rights and Solidarity with Oppressed People (MAZLUMDER)

Caribbean Natural Resources Institute

Center for Assistance to Justice and Animation for Development

Council for a Parliament of World Religions

Droits de l'Homme sans Frontières

Egyptian Centre for Human Rights

Equipo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Género

Elige: Red de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos

Emmanuel Development Association

Family Life Association of Swaziland

Femmes unies pour un avenir meilleur

Global Initiative for Positive Change

Ilankai Thamil Sangam

Muslim Aid

National Development Youth Club, Jaran Wali Gali Poonch

Pan African Climate Justice Alliance

Population Matters

Reviving Hope Uganda

Rights and Resources Institute

Standards Charter

Strong Hearted Native Women's Coalition

Treatment and Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture

Women's Rights and Health Project

World Information Technology and Services Alliance

Youth in Action Balochistan

(e) To note that the Committee took note of the withdrawal of applications by two non-governmental organizations:

European Muslims League

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Vanadzor Office

Draft decision II
Withdrawal of the consultative status of the non-governmental organization International Chamber of Commerce

The Economic and Social Council decides to withdraw consultative status with the Council of the non-governmental organization International Chamber of Commerce, pursuant to a request made by the organization, since it has been invited to participate at the General Assembly in the capacity of observer in accordance with General Assembly resolution 71/156 of 13 December 2016.

Draft decision III
Suspension of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations with outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Council resolution 2008/4

Having confirmed at its resumed session in May 2017 that the Secretariat had reminded non-governmental organizations with outstanding quadrennial reports of their reporting obligation and had advised them of the consequences of their further non-compliance after 1 May 2017, and that it had notified the permanent missions of the Member States in which the headquarters of such organizations are based of the final reminders, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

The Economic and Social Council decides, in accordance with its resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008, to suspend immediately, for a period of one year, the consultative status of the 128 non-governmental organizations listed below, and requests the Secretary-General to advise the concerned organizations of their suspension.

À la Vista! Communication Sociale

A K Munshi Yojana

Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine

Afghan Poverty Relief

African Peace Network

AIDS Information Switzerland

Ajegunle Community Project

All India Christian Council

Alzheimer's Disease International — International Federation of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Societies

American Life League

Antonio Restrepo Barco Foundation

Arab Network for Environment and Development

Arcidonna Onlus

Artfully AWARE

Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

Asian Women in Cooperative Development Forum

Asociación Civil Observatorio Social

Association d'équipements collectifs La Castellane

Association haïtienne d'aide aux enfants nécessiteux et au relèvement des communes de l'Artibonite

Association jeunesse action développement

Association of African Entrepreneurs

Association togolaise pour les Nations Unies

Association tunisienne de la communication et des sciences spatiales

Autism Speaks

Batani International Development Fund for Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation

Black Sea Civil Society Solidarity Association

Bridges of Hope Project

CARAM Asia Berhad

Catholic Institute for International Relations

Centre d'information et de conseil des nouvelles spiritualités

Centre for Development Communication

Centre for European Constitutional Law: Themistocles and Dimitris Tsatsos Foundation

Centro Ecuatoriano de Derecho Ambiental

Centro de Estudios Europeos

Child Welfare League of America

Children of Peru Foundation

China NGO Network for International Exchanges

Chinese Society for Sustainable Development

Colectiva Mujer y Salud

Comité pour les relations internationales de jeunesse de la communauté française de Belgique

Comunicación Cultural

Concordis International Trust

Confédération européenne des cadres

Council on Health Research for Development

Diabetic Association of Sri Lanka

Doctors Worldwide

Droit à l'énergie SOS futur

EarthRights International

Education for Employment Foundation

European Intermodal Association

Family Health International

Federation of Jain Associations in North America

Finnish Youth Cooperation

Fondation marocaine de l'éducation pour l'emploi

Fondation Mohammed V pour la solidarité

Fondation Yves Rocher

Foundation for a Culture of Peace

Friends Society in Social Service

Fund for Women in Asia

Fundación para la Libertad "Askatasun Bidean"

Fundación Proacceso ECO

Global 2000 (2010) International

Global Action Plan International

Global Deaf Connection

Global Workers Justice Alliance

Grassroots Leadership

Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda

Guyana Responsible Parenthood Association

Help Handicapped International

Hindu Council of New Zealand

Interchurch Medical Assistance

International Academy of Ecology and Life Protection Sciences

International Association "Znanie"

International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property

International Diabetes Federation

International Federation of Multimedia Associations

International Federation of Resistance Movements

International Federation of Translators

International Paralympic Committee

International Partners in Mission

International Planned Parenthood Federation (South Asia region)

International Prisoners Aid Association

International School Psychology Association

International Senior Lawyers Project

Japan Water Forum

Law Council of Australia

Legal Advisory Office for Popular Organizations

Legal Aid Forum for Human Rights

Links Incorporated

Mali Rising Foundation

Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights

National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty

National Council of Women of Thailand

National Engineers Week Foundation

National Forum "Alternatives, Practice, Initiatives"

Nigerian Army Officers' Wives Association

One World Trust

Ordre des avocats de Paris

Organisation de Bender Djedid Pour le développement socio-économique

Organisation pour la rénovation environnante du sud d'Haïti

PFI Foundation

Peter Hesse Foundation: Solidarity in Partnership for One World

Programme on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Promocom

Regional Public Foundation Assistance for the Elderly "Dobroe Delo"

Réseau malien des journalistes pour la lutte contre la corruption et la pauvreté

Roma Centre for Social Intervention and Studies

Rural Africa Water Development Initiative

Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra

Scottish Association for Mental Health

Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States

Shrimati Pushpa Wati Loomba Memorial Foundation

South Asia Partnership International

Stichting Foundation Management EEAC

Stichting Universal Education Foundation

Sudan Council of Voluntary Agencies

Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats

US Green Building Council

Uganda Management Assistance Programme

Vikash

War Veterans Committee

Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development

Women in Media and Entertainment

Women's Association for a Better Aging Society

Woods Hole Research Center

World Alliance for Youth Empowerment

World Association of the Major Metropolises

World Energy Council

Draft decision IV
Reinstatement of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations that submitted outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Council resolution 2008/4

The Economic and Social Council decides, in accordance with its resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008, and recalling its decision 2016/236 of 25 July 2016, to reinstate the consultative status of 30 non-governmental organizations listed below, which have submitted their outstanding quadrennial reports.

Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia

ActionAid

Arab Lawyers Union

BAOBAB for Women's Human Rights

Belgrade Centre for Human Rights

Centre for Democracy and Development

China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation

Commission nationale des femmes travailleuses de Guinée

Conseil international du sport militaire

Development Innovations and Networks

European Women's Lobby

Instituto Qualivida

International Council of Scientific Unions

International Planned Parenthood Federation, East and Southeast Asia and Oceania Region

International Trade Union Confederation

JASMAR Human Security Organization

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Non-Aligned Students and Youth Organization

Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development

Plan Suomi Säätiö

Resources for the Future

Samuhik Abhiyan

Self-Help Development Facilitators

Struggle for Change

Turkish Philanthropy Funds

UN-Women — Nationell Kommitté Sverige

Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation

World Association of Children's Friends

World Federation of Therapeutic Communities

World Federation of United Nations Associations

Draft decision V
Withdrawal of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations, pursuant to Council resolution 2008/4

Having confirmed at its resumed session in May 2017 that the Secretariat had reminded non-governmental organizations having continued outstanding quadrennial reports of their reporting obligation and whose status had been suspended by the Economic and Social Council pursuant to Council decision 2016/236 of 25 July 2016, that it had advised them of the consequences of their further non-compliance after 1 May 2017 and that it had notified the permanent missions of the Member States in which the headquarters of such organizations are based of the final reminders, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

The Economic and Social Council decides, in accordance with its resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008, and recalling its decision 2016/236 of 25 July 2016, to withdraw immediately the consultative status of the 128 non-governmental organizations listed below, and requests the Secretary-General to advise the concerned organizations of this decision.

African American Institute

Amicale Marocaine des Handicapés

Arab Council for Childhood and Development

Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress

Asian Women's Human Rights Council

Asociación Mensajeros de la Paz

Asociatia Pro Democratia

Associação Nacional das Empresarias

Association d'aide aux enfants cancéreux

Association des jeunes pour le développement Pasteef

Association des volontaires pour l'assistance au développement en Guinée

Association for Democratic Initiatives

Association internationale des régions francophones

Association pour le développement durable

Associazione Nazionale Volontarie Telefono Rosa

Azerbaijan Turkey Business Association

Azrbaycan Grinin Avro-Atlantika Tkilat

Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Batool Welfare Trust

Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions

Citizens' Rights Protection Society

Clean Energy Promoting Citizen's Forum

Community-Based Rehabilitation Network (South Asia)

Confédération fiscale européenne

Consorcio Boliviano de Juventudes — Casa de la Juventud

Coordinadora Española para el Lobby Europeo de Mujeres

December 18 vzw

Demokratyczna Unia Kobiet

Djenne Initiative

Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation

Ecocosm Dynamics

End Human Trafficking Now

Environment Support Group

European Environmental Citizens Organisation for Standardisation

Family Welfare Foundation of India

Feminist Press

Focus on the Family

Focus on the Family (Canada) Association

Foundation for the Future

Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA)

Fundación Instituto de Cultura del Sur

General Federation of Jordanian Women

Global 2000

Global Aid Network

Global Fund for Women

Gong

Gulf Automobile Federation

Healthy Solutions

Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development

Indian Muslim Council — USA

Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage

Indigenous and Peasant Coordinator of Communal Agroforestry (CICAFOC)

Initiative du millénaire des femmes africaines contre la pauvreté et pour les droits humains

Inner Trip Reiyukai International

Institute for Cognitive Science Studies

Interact Worldwide

Intermon

International Abolitionist Federation

International Bureau for Children's Rights

International Cartographic Association

International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development

International Commission on Distance Education

International Council on Human Rights Policy

International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers

International Hotel and Restaurant Association

International Longevity Center

International Reading Association

International Trustee Fund of the Tsyolkovsky Moscow State Aviation Technological University

Istanbul Research Centre on Women

Jamaican Association on Mental Retardation

Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development

Karat Coalition

Katimavik

Kenya Community Development Group

Korean Sharing Movement

Latin American Committee for the Defence of Women's Rights

Leaders Organization

Legal Service Coalition

Life for Africa

Link-Up (Queensland) Aboriginal Corporation

Local Initiatives Program

Mbutu Agriculture Society

Mediterranean Women's Studies Centre

Mémorial de la Shoah

Mental Health Initiative for Africans in Crisis

Mumbai Educational Trust

National Association for Work Bless

National Bar Association

National Rural Development Society

National Wildlife Federation

National Women's Studies and Information Center "Partnership for Development"

Network Women in Development Europe

Niall Mellon Township Trust

Not for Sale Campaign

Pan African Civil Society Network

Patim

Plan Life

Project Green Nigeria

PROSALIS: Projecto de Saúde em Lisboa

Red ACTIVAS

Réseau des organisations du secteur éducatif du Niger

Roma Zaedno

Rufaida Health Foundation

Sahara for Life Trust

Service d'appui aux initiatives locales de développement

SHATIL: New Israel Fund's Empowerment and Training Center for Social Change Organizations

Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation

Social Initiatives Support Fund

SOUL Development of Women and Children

STEER Foundation

Sudan National Committee on Harmful Traditional Practices

Sudanese Organization for Education Development

Tamil Christian Broadcasting Network

Thakur Hari Prasad Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for the Mentally Handicapped

Think Youth Independent Association

Trickle Up Program

Türk Kalp Vakfi

Union of Social Child Care

Union of the Electricity Industry

United States Burn Support Organization

Vali-Asr Rehabilitation Foundation for Disabled Children and Adults

Western Cape Therapeutic Community Centre

Women's Alliance for a Democratic Iraq

World Federation of Democratic Youth

World Job and Food Bank

World Savings Banks Institute

Worldwide Network: Women in Development and Environment

Zoroastrian Women's Organization

Draft decision VI
Dates and provisional agenda of the 2018 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decides that the 2018 regular session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations will be held from 29 January to 7 February and on 23 February 2018 and its resumed session from 21 to 31 May and on 11 June 2018;

(b) Approves the provisional agenda for the 2018 session of the Committee as set out below.

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:
   (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee;
   (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification;
   (c) Applications of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status.
4. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council:
   (a) Deferred quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council;
   (b) Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council.
5. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.
6. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, including the process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations, and Council decision 1995/304:
   (a) Process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations;

(b) Consideration of issues on the agenda of the informal working group;

(c) Other related matters.

7. Consideration of special reports.

8. General voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network.

9. Provisional agenda and documentation for the 2019 session of the Committee.

10. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

Draft decision VII
Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2017 resumed session

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2017 resumed session.

II. Applications for consultative status, requests for reclassification and mergers received from non-governmental organizations

2. The Committee considered agenda items 3 (a), Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee, and 3 (b), New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification, at its 18th to 29th meetings, held from 22 to 31 May 2017. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Compilations of applications received from non-governmental organizations for consultative status deferred from previous sessions of the Committee held from 2008 to 2017 (E/C.2/2017/CRP.7) and requests for reclassification deferred from 2015 to 2017 (E/C.2/2017/CRP.8);

(b) Memorandums by the Secretary-General containing new applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations (E/C.2/2017/R.2/Add.29-45);

(c) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing a new request for reclassification to be considered by the Committee (E/C.2/2017/R.3/Add.1);

(d) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing a request from a non-governmental organization for a merger (E/C.2/2017/CRP.9).

A. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee

3. The Committee considered agenda item 3 (a), Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee, at its 20th to 25th meetings and 27th to 29th meetings, held from 23 to 26 May and on 30 and 31 May. The Committee considered a total of 221 deferred applications for consultative status.

Applications recommended

4. The Committee recommended that the Council grant consultative status to 67 non-governmental organizations (see chap. I, draft decision I, subpara. (a)):

Special consultative status

Action pour la promotion du développement

Aid Organization

Albert Kunstadter Family Foundation

Al-Hasaniya Moroccan Women's Project

Alliance des avocats pour les droits de l'homme

Alliance internationale pour la défense des droits et des libertés

Alliance pour la solidarité et le partage en Afrique-Jeunesse pour intégration culturelle et sociale

Asociación Pro-Bienestar de la Familia Colombiana "Profamilia"

Association de la continuité des générations

Association marocaine de planification familiale

Association M'zab prévention routière et développement

Canadian Council for Refugees

Center for Media and Peace Initiative

Comisión Unidos vs Trata

Comité des observateurs des droits de l'homme

Community Empowerment and Development Initiative, Warri

Conglomeration of Bengal's Hotel Owners

Creators Union of Arab

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe

Drishti Foundation Trust

Education, Communication and Development Trust

Family Planning Association of Bangladesh

Fondation Alkarama

Fundación Acción Pro Derechos Humanos

GenderCC — Women for Climate Justice

Gestos Soropositividade Comunicação e Gênero

Heal the Land Initiative in Nigeria

Heavenly Shower of Peace Church of God

INA (Māori, Indigenous and South Pacific) HIV/AIDS Foundation

Initiative for Youth Awareness on Climate Change

Initiative pour le développement de l'Afrique

Institut international de recherches pour la paix à Genève

International Centre for Women Empowerment and Child Development

International Association for Religious Freedom, Coordinating Council for South Asia

International Centre for Development Initiatives

International Centre for Leadership Development Nigeria

International Human Rights Council

International Mayor Communication Centre

International Right of Way Association

J P Foundation

James Madison University

Medical Women's Association of Nigeria

Millennium Network for Community Development Initiative

Navjivan Foundation

Neighbourhood Community Network

Niger Delta Budget Monitoring Group

Nigerian Council

Orji Uzor Kalu Foundation

Pan African Institute for Entrepreneurship and Community Development

Partnership for Change

Pirate Parties International Headquarters

Red Elephant Foundation

Roads of Success

Rwenzori Center for Research and Advocacy

SAE International

Saviour USA — One World Charity

Settlement Services International

Slum Child Foundation

Society for Environment and Development

Society for the Widows and Orphans

Somali Youth Development Foundation

Stichting Samenwerkingsverband IKV — Pax Christi

Trust in Development

Women and Child Watch Initiatives

Women's Voices Now

World Academy of Art and Science

Youth for a Better World

Applications deferred

5. The Committee deferred its consideration of the applications of the following 122 non-governmental organizations, pending the receipt of responses to questions posed by the Committee to them during its 2017 resumed session:

"SEG" Civil Society Support Center

AIM Education and Research Society

Akhil Bharatiya Human Rights Organisation

Aleradah and Altageer National Society

Al-Marsad, Arab Centre for Human Rights in the Golan Heights

Ambedkar Center for Justice and Peace

American Human Rights Council

AMPHTS

Andrey Rylkov Foundation for Health and Social Justice

Anti-Corruption Foundation

Arab Council for Supporting Fair Trials

Arab-European Center of Human Rights and International Law

Asia Center for Human Rights

Association Concerning Sexual Violence against Women

Association organisation populaire pour l'enseignement des droits humains

Association pour la défense des droits de l'homme et des revendications démocratiques/culturelles du peuple Azerbaidjanais-Iran — "ARC"

Assyrian Aid Society of America

Bahrain Center for Human Rights

Bureau international pour le respect des droits de l'homme au Sahara Occidental

Cameroon League for Development

Center for Constitutional Rights

Center for Democracy and Technology

Center of Political Analysis and Information Security

Centre Zagros pour les droits de l'homme

Christian Solidarity International

Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights

Congrès national des Arméniens occidentaux

Coordination Waï (Éveil) relative à l'unité nationale et la lutte contre l'esclavage

Coptic Solidarity

Dalit Welfare Organization

Danjuma Atta Eye Foundation

Dansk Flygtningehjælp

Database Center for North Korean Human Rights

Diakonia

Diplomatic Mission Peace and Prosperity

Dream Touch for All

Eaglesworth Human Empowerment Foundation

Electronic Frontier Foundation

Embajada Mundial de Activistas por la Paz

Emperor Gaza International Foundation

Establishment of Sheikh Thani bin Abdullah Al Thani for Humanitarian Services

Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network

European Centre for Democracy and Human Rights

Fair Trials International

Family Policy Institute

Federal Lezghin National and Cultural Autonomy

Formation Awareness and Community Empowerment Society Pakistan

F W de Klerk Foundation Trust

Global Campaign for Education

Global Forum for Media Development

Global Network of Sex Work Projects

Global Peace Foundation

Gulf Centre for Human Rights

Gulshan-e-John

Hokok Coalición Internacional Contra la Impunidad

Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation

Inimõiguste Instituut

Insamlingsstiftelsen Kvinna till Kvinna

International Association of Genocide Scholars

International Child Rights Center

International Dalit Solidarity Network

International Gulf Organization

International Human Rights Organization

International Non-Olympic Committee

International Non-Olympic University

Interregional Non-governmental Organization "Committee against Torture"

Iran Human Rights Documentation Center

Islamic African Relief Agency

Jerusalem Institute of Justice

Jeunesse étudiante tamoule

Jubilee USA Network

Keeping Children Safe

Korea Human Rights Foundation

Legal Advice Centre

Malteser International

Mangfoldhuset

Mittetulundusühing Fenno-Ugria Asutus

Mkokoteni Aid Development Organization

Muslim Hands

National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

NDLH International — Network of International Diplomacy, International Law and Human Rights

New Woman Foundation

NK Watch

Orion Projects Private

Pak Special Persons Welfare Society

Pak Women

Pakistan International — Human Rights Organization

Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays and Gays

Peace Brigades International

Peace Islands Institute

Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Red de Seguridad y Defensa de América Latina

Reprieve

Right Livelihood Award Foundation

Sex og Samfund

Sheikh Eid Bin Mohammad Al Thani Charitable Association

Simons Foundation

Social Services Trust

Society without Violence Non-Governmental Organization

Solidarity for Peace and Reunification of Korea

Stichting Pro Papua

Swadhikar

Syrian American Medical Society Foundation

US Committee for Human Rights in North Korea

USA Refugees and Immigrants

United Sikhs

Universal Rights Group

Vang Pao Peace Institute

V-Day Karama

Vietnamese Overseas Initiative for Conscience Empowerment

Voice Society

We Care for Humanity

West Papua Interest Association

White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood

Women Living under Muslim Laws — International Solidarity Network

Women's Freedom Forum

World Association for Sexual Health

World Learning

World without Genocide

Yay Gender Harmony

Youth RISE (Resource, Information, Support, Education)

Inimõiguste Instituut

6. At its 24th meeting, on 25 May 2017, the Committee considered the application of the non-governmental organization (NGO) Inimõiguste Instituut. The representative of the Russian Federation expressed his dissatisfaction with the organization's response to the question posed by the Committee on 7 February 2017 and reiterated his request to the organization to explain whether it found it possible to cooperate with people who had been accused of terrorism.

7. In taking the floor, the observer for Estonia stated that civil society and NGOs were vital partners in the work of the United Nations, not only in the policy deliberation processes but also in the execution of those policies. That being the case, it was imperative for the Committee to facilitate a more accessible, transparent and meaningful process in which NGOs could engage. In strongly supporting the activities of Inimõiguste Instituut (in English, the Estonian Institute of Human Rights), she highlighted the reputation of the organization as the first and oldest independent organization in Estonia that was focused on the protection of human rights in the country and around the world. As such, she regretted the deferment of the application once again and urged the Committee to recommend consultative status for the organization without delay.

Mittetulundusühing Fenno-Ugria Asutus

8. Also at its 24th meeting, the Committee considered the application of the non-governmental organization Mittetulundusühing Fenno-Ugria Asutus. The representative of the Russian Federation requested the organization to provide updated, detailed information regarding projects that it had implemented in 2016 and 2017 within the territory of the Russian Federation where the Fenno-Ugric people lived and that had been financed through grants from Estonia and other countries.

9. The observer for Estonia stated that the Committee should live up to its responsibility of making decisions on applications as quickly and effectively as possible based on whether the organization's activities met the criteria established in Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 and whether its aims and purposes were in conformity with the spirit, principles and aspirations of the Charter of the United Nations. She deplored the deviations from those guiding principles, whereby

the consideration of organizations was subject to endless procedural measures or subverted to political agendas. She reiterated that Mittetulundusühing Fenno-Ugria Asutus was doing commendable work in preserving the Fenno-Ugric indigenous cultures and languages and should clearly be recommended for consultative status. Instead, she remarked, the organization's application had been pending since 2014, deferred for eight sessions for reasons that were unclear. She strongly urged the Committee to recommend granting consultative status to the organization.

10. The representative of the Russian Federation stated that, since there were over 80,000 Russian-speaking people in Estonia who were stateless, his delegation had requested the organization to explain how it protected the rights of those persons, but had yet to receive a response. He went on to say that his country had been carefully following the work of the organization, which seemed to have been using the issue of indigenous peoples to incite separatism. That was why his delegation felt that the organization did not deserve to be granted consultative status with the Council.

11. The representative of the United States of America stressed that it would be unfortunate to politicize the work of the organization, which was doing important work and whose application had been pending since 2014. She emphasized that the organization had already responded in 2014 to the same question posed to it by the Russian Federation, and therefore requested the delegation of the Russian Federation to withdraw its question.

12. The representative of the Russian Federation reiterated the need to pose the question because the organization did not meet the criteria for obtaining consultative status with the Council. The representative of the United States expressed concern that the representative of the Russian Federation seemed to have confused the two organizations with another, since the Committee was reviewing the organization that focused on the rights of the Fenno-Ugric people and preserving their culture and language, not any other people.

Iran Human Rights Documentation Center

13. At the 28th meeting, on 30 May, following a question posed by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the application of the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center, the representative of the United States took the floor to remind the Committee that the application from that organization had been pending since January 2010, having been blocked by several delegations for seven years, or 15 consecutive sessions, with over 60 questions posed to it about its funding and work, which it had answered dutifully. She emphasized that, despite the fact that many of the questions were repetitive or unreasonably detailed, the organization had nevertheless responded to each of them. For example, on several occasions, the organization had had to justify why it had chosen to focus on the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, even though the Third Committee had repeatedly adopted resolutions concerning the human rights situation in that country. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, she reiterated, was tasked with determining whether NGOs could contribute meaningfully to the work of the Council, and on the basis of that criteria, her delegation strongly supported the organization, stating that it merited accreditation to the Council. The representative of the United States stated that, on 17 January 2011, the Committee had asked the organization how it maintained its independence while receiving funding from governments. The organization answered that question on 28 January 2011. Even so, the Committee again asked it the same question on 2 February 2011, 27 May 2011, 7 February 2012, 6 February 2013, 2 February 2015 and 5 June 2015. The organization had been asked the same question numerous times since applying five years earlier. The Committee subjected very few NGOS to

such intense levels of politically motivated scrutiny, the only ostensible purpose of which was to delay the organization's application indefinitely. She therefore requested the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to review the responses received so far and to withdraw its questions.

14. In his response, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that the case of the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center was one that demonstrated the validity of the Committee and its work. He cited the case as an example of the manipulation and abuse of NGO status, stating that it was an ostensible NGO created by a Government to act against another Government, could in no way be considered a non-governmental organization and did not deserve to have the status of one. He maintained that the case in question was an exploitation of NGO status for political purposes in order to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, which was clearly against the Charter of United Nations and against resolution 1996/31. In reaction to the use of the term "block" by the representative of the United States, he said that his delegation understood why the United States delegation was trying to block the work of the Committee by posing many irrelevant questions and enquiries. He further stated that if anything was the business of the United States, it was not human rights and it was not interference in the internal affairs of other countries. He continued by saying that the Committee understood what was politically motivated and what was not, that the organization in question was a clear example of the politicization of human rights and NGOs and that his delegation would not accept any interference by the United States in the internal affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He reiterated that his delegation did not think that human rights was an issue that the Government of the United States was particularly concerned about, as voiced many times recently by the President of the United States himself. He concluded by advising the United States to focus on its own concerns and priorities, as everyone knew what those were.

Requests for reclassification

15. At its 25th meeting, on 26 May, the Committee considered three deferred requests for reclassification of consultative status, as contained in conference room paper E/C.2/2017/CRP.8. It decided to further defer its consideration of the applications for reclassification of status of the following organizations, pending the receipt of responses to questions posed by the Committee:

International Campaign to Ban Landmines

Universal Peace Federation

Widows for Peace through Democracy

Applications closed without prejudice

16. At its 29th meeting, on 31 May, the Committee decided to close without prejudice consideration of the applications of 30 non-governmental organizations that had not responded to the Committee's questions despite three reminders sent to the organizations (see chap. I, draft decision I, subpara. (e)).

B. New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification

17. The Committee considered agenda item 3 (b), New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification, at its 18th to 20th meetings, held on 22 May and 23 May, and its 27th meeting, on 30 May. The Committee considered a total of 164 new applications for consultative status.

New applications recommended

18. Of the 164 organizations whose new applications had been received, the Committee recommended that the following 124 should be granted consultative status with the Council (see chap. I, draft decision I, subpara. (a)):

Special consultative status

ABC Tamil Oli

ACE

Adelphi Consult GmbH

Afectividad y Sexualidad

African Trade Center

All Win Network

AMFORHT

Asia Injury Prevention Foundation

Asian Marine Conservation Association

Asociación Cubana de Limitados Físico-Motores

Asociación Española de Directivos, AED-1996

Association Adala-justice

Association culturelle des Tamouls en France

Association debout femmes autochtones du Congo

Association mauritanienne pour la promotion de la famille

Association Thendral

Association d'entraide médicale Guinée

Association des relais communautaires d'Oshwé

Association for Protection of Maternity, Infancy and Family João e Maria

Association mauritanienne pour la transparence et le développement

Association of Former International Civil Servants for Development

Associação Brasileira dos Organizadores de Festivais de Folclore e Artes Populares

Associação de Jovens Engajamundo

Autonomous Non-Profit Organization Ethnocultural Association Elleyada

Biedrība "Mūsdienu Latvijas Teritoriju Apdzīvojošās Krievvalodīgās Pamattautas Asociācija"

Bäuerliche Erzeugergemeinschaft Schwäbisch Hall

Caucasian Jews World Congress

Center for Development Support Initiatives

Centre for Disaster Risk and Crisis Reduction

Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research

Centre for Policy Dialogue

Centre for Youth and Literacy Development

Centre for the Sustainable Use of Natural and Social Resources (CSNR)

Centre international de recherche — Action pour un développement durable

Centrul European Pentru Prevenirea Adictiilor

Chia-Funkuin Foundation

China Academy of Culture

China-Africa Business Council

Collectif haïtien des droits humains

Compassion in World Farming

Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation

Education Above All Foundation

Equis: Justicia para las Mujeres

European Business Club Association

European Federation of Psychologists Associations

European Union of the Deaf

Farmers Development Organization

Foreningen for Human Narkotikapolitikk

Foundation Sozopol

Foundation for Environmental Stewardship

Fundación América Solidaria Internacional

Fundación Éforo

Fundação Abrinq pelos Direitos da Criança e do Adolescente

Fédération bruxelloise des institutions pour toxicomanes

Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue

Geo-Environmental Resource Association (GERAS)

Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption

Gusenghwe

Haiti Cholera Research Funding Foundation

HAMS Harm Reduction Network

Health in Action

Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light

Help Not Handcuffs

Hope for Education

Hope for Women

Horizon d'échange et de lutte contre la pauvreté

Human Dignity

Humanitarian Care Malaysia Berhad

Ihsan Foundation for West Africa

IMPACT Initiatives

Initiative for Equality

Institut für Klimaschutz, Energie und Mobilität — Recht, Ökonomie und Politik

Institute of Sustainable Development

International Disability Alliance

International Doctors for Healthier Drug Policies CIC

IOGT-NTO

Irene Menakaya School Onitsha

Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation

Korea Disaster Relief

Korea Food for the Hungry International

Korea Spinal Cord Injury Association

Leadership for Environment and Development — Pakistan

Les œuvres sociales pour les actions de développement

Lokmanya Sewa Sangh Parle

Mary Robinson Foundation

Mor Çatı Kadın Sığınağı Vakfı

Nagorik Uddyog

Namaa Association of Social Development

New York Encounter

NoBox Transitions Foundation

Öğretmen Akademisi Vakfı

Organization Earth

Pakistan Council for Social Welfare and Human Rights

PathFinders

Peace Foundation Pakistan

Positive Planet

Professional Women's Network Madrid

Project 1948 Foundation

Public Organization "Public Advocacy"

Qatar Foundation for Social Work

Rebirth Charity Society

Sadakatasi Dernegi

Samaj Kalyanka Lagi Yuwa Nepal

Saudi Green Building Forum

Save Our Needy Organization

Sense International, India

Small and Medium-Scale Entrepreneurship Fundamentals Foundation

Sociedad Cubana para la Promoción de las Fuentes Renovables de Energía y el Respeto Ambiental (Cubasolar)

Society for Roots for Equity

Société civile africaine sur la société de l'information, réseau pour les TIC et le développement

Stichting Simavi

Sulabh Sanitation Mission Foundation

Sunfull Movement

The Brooke

Voice of the Youth

WePower — Women's Electoral Power for the Advancement of Women's Leadership in Israel (RA)

Win the War! Against Violence

Women and Media Collective

Women Striving for Brighter Tomorrow

Women's Rights Center

World Martial Arts Union

Youth Foundation for Development, Education and Leadership

Youth Social Service Organization, Pulpally

Zéro pauvre Afrique

New applications deferred

19. The Committee deferred its consideration of the applications of the following 40 organizations pending receipt of responses to questions posed by the Committee to the organizations during its 2017 resumed session:

Alliance to Renew Co-operation among Humankind

American Jewish World Service

Arab Center for the Promotion of Human Rights

Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment

Asociación Red de Mujeres Afrolatinoamericanas, Afrocaribeñas y de la Diáspora

Centre universitaire de droit international humanitaire

Children's Hope India

Commonwealth Medical Trust

Congrès mondial Amazigh

Engineering Association for Development and Environment

Ertegha Keyfiat Zendegi Iranian Charitable Institute

Fondation Cordoue de Genève

GAHT-US Corporation

International Center for Supporting Rights and Freedoms

International Charitable Foundation "Alliance for Public Health"

International Media Support

International Organisation to Preserve Human Rights

International Women's Peace Group Corporation

Iraqi Al-Amal Association

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Migrant Forum in Asia

Norsk organisasjon for reform av marihuanalovgivningen

North Korea Intellectuals Solidarity

Ohaha Family Foundation

Okuolu International

Peace Research Institute Oslo

People's Right to Information and Development Implementing Society of Mizoram

Public Aid Organization

Research Society of International Law

Saafah Foundation for Transparency and Integrity

Salam for Democracy and Human Rights

Scholé Futuro

Soulforce

Stichting Choice for Youth and Sexuality

Tabriz Green Hearts Charity Society

Turkiye Diyanet Vakfi

Uganda Youth Development Link

Union of Non-Governmental Associations "International Non-Governmental Organization — World Union of Cossack Atamans"

Wockhardt Foundation

WomenNC — NC Committee for CSW/CEDAW

Request for reclassification

20. At its 20th meeting, on 23 May, the Committee considered a new request for reclassification from the International Federation of Consular Corps and Associations, as contained in document E/C.2/2017/R.3/Add.1. It decided to defer its consideration of the request pending the receipt of responses to questions posed by the Committee.

C. Applications from non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status

21. At its 25th meeting, on 26 May, the Committee considered one application for a merger of the Social Service Agency of the Protestant Church in Germany (in special consultative status) with the Protestant Development Service (organization not in status with the Council) to form the Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development, deferred from the previous session. It decided to further defer its consideration of the application for a merger, pending receipt of responses to questions posed by the Committee.

III. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council and other related matters

22. The Committee considered agenda items 4 (a), relating to deferred quadrennial reports, and 4 (b), relating to newly submitted quadrennial reports, including for the reinstatement, suspension and withdrawal of status under resolution 2008/4, at its 25th and 26th meetings, held on 26 May 2017. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Compilation of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council deferred from previous sessions of the Committee (E/C.2/2017/CRP.10);

(b) Notes by the Secretary-General containing quadrennial reports for the 2012-2015 and 2011-2014 periods (E/C.2/2017/2/Add.24 and E/C.2/2017/CRP.17-28);

(c) Memorandums by the Secretary-General containing compilations of non-governmental organizations that had their consultative status reinstated, suspended or withdrawn (E/C.2/2017/CRP.13-15);

(d) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing requests from non-governmental organizations requesting a change of name (E/C.2/2017/CRP.12);

(e) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing a deferred request from one non-governmental organization requesting a change of name (E/C.2/2017/CRP.11);

(f) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing a request from one non-governmental organization for withdrawal of its status (E/C.2/2017/CRP.29).

A. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council that had been deferred at the resumed session

23. At its 26th meeting, on 26 May, the Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General containing a compilation of 96 quadrennial reports, submitted by non-governmental organizations in general and special consultative status on their activities during the period 2002-2017, which had been deferred from previous sessions of the Committee (E/C.2/2017/CRP.10). Of the 96 reports, the

Committee took note of 22 reports from the following organizations (see chap. I, draft decision I, subpara. (e)):

AARP (2011-2014)

Advocates for Human Rights (2012-2015)

Centre for Human Rights (2012-2015)

East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (2012-2015)

European Centre for Law and Justice (2011-2014)

Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief (2012-2015)

Front Line: International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (2012-2015)

Human Rights First (2007-2010)

Human Rights First (2011-2014)

Human Rights Now (2012-2015)

International Association for Media and Communication Research (2012-2015)

International Bar Association (2011-2014)

International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (2012-2015)

International Fellowship of Reconciliation (2011-2014)

International Humanist and Ethical Union (2012-2015)

Medical Women's International Association (2011-2014)

Pax Christi International (2011-2014)

Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2011-2014)

Restless Development (2012-2015)

Tandem Project (2011-2014)

World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (2011-2014)

World Safety Organization (2011-2014)

24. The Committee decided to further defer consideration of the 74 deferred quadrennial reports submitted by the following non-governmental organizations:

Amnesty International (2008-2011)

Amnesty International (2012-2015)

Armenian Assembly of America (2007-2010)

Armenian Assembly of America (2011-2014)

Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (2012-2015)

Asociatia Pro Democratia (2007-2010)

Catholics for Choice (2010-2013)

Catolicas por el Derecho a Decidir (2009-2012)

Centrist Democratic International (1998-2001)

Centrist Democratic International (2002-2005)

Centrist Democratic International (2006-2009)

Centrist Democratic International (2010-2013)

Christian Conference of Asia (2012-2015)

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (2012-2015)

Club of Madrid (2011-2014)

Conscience and Peace Tax International (2011-2014)

Cross-Cultural Solutions (2011-2014)

EarthRights International (2008-2011)

Egyptian Organization for Human Rights (2010-2013)

End Human Trafficking Now (2007-2010)

Federación Internacional de Fe y Alegría (2011-2014)

France libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand (2007-2010)

France libertés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand (2011-2014)

Freedom House (2007-2010)

Freedom House (2011-2014)

Global Environmental Action (2009-2012)

Heritage Foundation (2011-2014)

Human Rights House Foundation (2011-2014)

Human Rights Watch (2009-2012)

Institute of Inter-Balkan Relations (2010-2013)

International Association for Religious Freedom (2011-2014)

International Commission of Jurists (2009-2012)

International Council on Social Welfare (2012-2015)

International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (2012-2015)

International Federation of Journalists (2005-2008)

International Federation of Journalists (2009-2012)

International PEN (2006-2009)

International Press Institute (2001-2004)

International Press Institute (2005-2008)

International Press Institute (2009-2012)

International Service for Human Rights (2011-2014)

International Social Service (2011-2014)

International Union of Socialist Youth (2005-2008)

Iraqi Development Organization (2012-2015)

Lawyers without Borders (2012-2015)

Mahila Dakshata Samiti (2012-2015)

Minhaj-ul-Quran International (2011-2014)

Minority Rights Group (2012-2015)

National Council of Women of Thailand (2000-2003)

Nonviolent Peaceforce (2011-2014)

Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement — International (2011-2014)

Pathfinder International (2011-2014)

People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (2012-2015)

Physicians for Human Rights (2011-2014)

Redress Trust (2011-2014)

Reporters sans frontières international (2005-2008)

Reporters sans frontières international (2009-2012)

Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights (2009-2012)

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (2011-2014)

Simon Wiesenthal Center (2011-2014)

Simply Help (2009-2012)

Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (2011-2014)

Sulabh International (2011-2014)

Temple of Understanding (2011-2014)

Ukrainian World Congress (2003-2006)

Ukrainian World Congress (2007-2010)

Ukrainian World Congress (2011-2014)

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (2009-2012)

Women for Women's Human Rights — New Ways (2009-2012)

World Council of Arameans (Syriacs) (2007-2010)

World Habitat Foundation (2012-2015)

World Hunger Year (2012-2015)

World Jewish Congress (2011-2014)

World Organisation against Torture (2010-2013)

B. Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council

25. At its 25th meeting, on 26 May, the Committee considered agenda item 4 (b), Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council. It had before it notes by the Secretary-General containing 184 new quadrennial reports for the 2012-2015 reporting period (E/C.2/2017/2/Add.24 and E/C.2/2017/CRP.17-28). The Committee took note of the quadrennial reports of 174 of those organizations (see chap. I, draft decision I, subpara. (c)). The Committee decided to defer consideration of the reports of the following 10 organizations:

American Psychological Association

British Overseas NGOs for Development

Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches

Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos

Médecins sans frontières (international)

United Methodist Church General Board of Global Ministries

Universal Peace Federation

US Human Rights Network

World Council of Independent Christian Churches

World Vision International

C. Other related matters

Requests for a change of name

26. At its 27th meeting, on 30 May, the Committee considered four new requests for a change of name by organizations in consultative status, as contained in conference room paper E/C.2/2017/CRP.12, and one request for a name change deferred from a previous session, as contained in conference room paper E/C.2/2017/CRP.11. It decided to take note of the change of name of four organizations (see chap. I, draft decision I, subpara. (b)) and to defer its consideration of the request for a change of name by the following organization, pending the receipt of responses to questions posed by the Committee:

ZOA Vluchtelingenzorg (Special, 2012) to Stichting ZOA

Request for withdrawal of consultative status

27. At its 27th meeting, on 30 May, the Committee took note of the request for withdrawal of consultative status by one non-governmental organization (see chap. I, draft decision II).

IV. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat

28. At its 17th meeting on 22 May, the Committee jointly considered agenda item 5, Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, and agenda item 8, General voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network, and heard oral reports made by the Secretariat.

29. The Acting Chief of the NGO Branch highlighted the lack of adequate resources to deliver on a steadily increasing volume of work, including the processing of applications and quadrennial reports from NGOs every year, as well as the related support for the Committee's paperless system. Particular urgency was emphasized for the current session, given the fact that the workload of the Branch in 2017 far exceeded its capacity after temporary resources allocated by the Fifth

Committee had been discontinued. Under the circumstances, a backlog in the submission of applications had appeared, leading to inordinate delays for NGOs in obtaining consultative status with the Council. The Committee was therefore urged to consider ways to support the Branch's efforts to enable it to fully meet its obligations under resolution 1996/31. As a means of coping with the increased workload, the presentation of quadrennial reports to the Committee as conference room papers allowed for quicker and more cost effective processing of the exponentially increasing number of these reports.

V. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Council resolution 1996/31, including the process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations, and Council decision 1995/304

30. At the 17th meeting, on 22 May, under agenda item 2, Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters, the representative of China requested the Secretariat to clarify the word "statements" in the work programme of the Committee, which he said had not appeared in past sessions, and questioned the need for its inclusion. The Secretariat explained that the term had been introduced in the regular session of the Committee in January 2017 because of requests for general statements from the floor by Member States and observer States at the opening of the session of the Committee.

31. The representative of the United States reminded the Committee that the word "statements" was included to clarify the specific agenda item under which general statements could be made, as there had previously been confusion about when statements, including those by Member States, should be made, leading to the adoption of the programme of work with the word "statements" at the last session. The representative of India confirmed that statement, but maintained that, as far as NGOs were concerned, they were allotted a particular time slot during the question-and-answer session at the end of each day to make their statements, referring to NGOs that had submitted their applications for obtaining consultative status. He added that while he was happy to see the word "statements" included, it nevertheless needed further discussions about the nature of the statements, the particular topics, the list of speakers, and other details.

32. The representative of Greece said that he welcomed the explicit addition of the word "statements" in the agenda, which was compatible with past practice, and that it made sense for members of the Committee, observer States and civil society to make general statements at the beginning of the session.

33. The representative of China reiterated that the inclusion of the word was not necessary and, if it were to be included at all, it should be clarified that it referred to statements from Member States only. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela also requested clarification as to who should deliver the statements, in order to avoid any confusion or misinterpretation.

34. Following those statements, the Chair of the Committee gavelled the discussion on the programme of work to a close and suggested that members of the Committee take up the issue informally, to which the representative of China objected, saying that since there was a pending question, the agenda could not be adopted. In support of the representative of China, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that the Chair should not have adopted the agenda without objections, because there had been objections. The Chair explained that, in his view,

there was no substantive difference whether the word "statement" was included or not.

35. The representative of China reiterated that his delegation had no objections to statements from Member and observer States and proposed amending the wording to "statements from Member States and observer States", to which the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran agreed. The representative of the United States objected to the wording and stated that, since the agenda had already been approved, it was necessary to continue with the programme of work. The representative of Greece also expressed his support for the programme of work as it had been gavelled.

36. The representative of Cuba suggested that the Chair should allow more time before gavelling in order to avoid rushing through the programme of work and to allow the interpreters sufficient time to translate his words. He agreed to the inclusion of the word "statements" with the understanding that it would refer only to Member and observer States, as had been the practice of the Committee, namely, to allow general statements at the opening session of the Committee and specific statements when a specific application was under review, while allowing NGOs to make their statements only at the question-and-answer session held every day.

37. The representative of the Russian Federation proposed that the current programme of work be adopted, but on the condition that consideration of the issue of including the word "statements" be postponed to 30 May, after discussions during informal consultations.

38. The representative of China maintained, however, that, while his delegation did not want to challenge the Chair's gavel, the gavelling had taken place after his delegation had requested the floor, and his delegation was not able to accept the working paper as it was currently formulated.

39. The representative of the United States sought to clarify that the question-and-answer session held between 5 and 6 p.m. was not allotted for statements by NGOs in consultative status, but for NGO applicants hoping for accreditation. The representative of Greece supported the position of the United States, adding that there was no provision for NGOs to make general statements during the question-and-answer slot, which were made only at the opening session.

40. In agreeing with the request of China, Cuba and the Russian Federation for additional time to discuss the issue, the representative of Israel also declined to challenge the Chair's gavelling. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela pointed out that members seemed to be interpreting the issue in different ways, which was why it needed to be clarified right away in order to avoid future discussions.

41. The representative of China stated that his delegation could accept the agenda and proceed to the next agenda item, provided that the programme of work would be reconsidered on 30 May.

42. At that point, the representative of the United States asked the representative of China to clarify his reasons for not allowing NGOs to make general statements, citing the case of an NGO that had spoken for four minutes on behalf of 230 organizations at the resumed session in 2016. The Chair sought to clarify that any Member State could cede the floor to civil society to speak, which was why it did not matter whether the wording "statements by member and observer States" was specifically inserted in the programme of work. He then proposed adopting the current version of the programme of work by deleting the word "statement" from it, to which the representative of the United States responded that, as Member States were able to make statements, with or without the word "statement" in the working

paper, her delegation could go along with the amendment. The Committee then adopted the programme of work.

43. In concluding the discussions on subsequent agenda items, the Chair asked whether delegations had any statements to make, to which the representative of Uruguay requested to cede her delegation's place to an NGO. The representative of China then asked under which agenda item the organization would be making the statement. On being informed that it was under item 6 (c), Other related matters, his delegation raised an objection and asked the representative of Uruguay to explain why she was requesting that the organization make a statement under that item.

44. In response, the Chair asked the delegation of China to clarify whether it was negating the right of Uruguay to give the floor to civil society, to which the representative of China responded that he would like to request the opinion of the legal adviser on the matter.

45. The delegation of the United States enquired as to the reason for preventing the organization from making a statement, reiterating that she would like to hear from it, unless it was a matter of a point of order. The Chair clarified that a request for a legal opinion had been made by China but that the request needed to be made on behalf of the entire Committee, and not by one Member State.

46. The representatives of India and the Russian Federation requested the representative of Uruguay to clarify whether the NGO in question was part of the Uruguayan delegation. In response, the representative of Uruguay cited the precedent set in May 2016, when a Member State had ceded its right to a civil society organization to make a statement from the floor of the Committee.

47. The representative of Uruguay reiterated that her delegation's request did not contravene any rule of the Committee. The representative of India reminded the Committee that that was not the first time that Member States had engaged in discussing the issue. However, he pointed to paragraph 32 of Council resolution 1996/31, which provided that NGOs in consultative status might be given the opportunity to make statements. In view of that provision, he suggested that his delegation would be happy to join consensus on a proposal for making a list of NGOs and other non-State actors wishing to make statements, to be circulated prior to the session, with the relevant agenda item specified so that it could be presented for consideration.

48. The representative of Greece stated that there was no prohibition against NGOs taking the floor and questioned the grounds on which the delegation of Uruguay was being prevented from giving up its speaking slot to a member of civil society, once again reiterating his delegation's support for the organization to take the floor, in keeping with the practice at the 2016 resumed session. The representative of the United States highlighted the fact that the role of the Committee was to promote the engagement of NGOs, which included hearing from NGOs, and since there was no point of order, she once again requested the representative of China to explain why he was concerned about allowing the organization to speak before the Committee.

49. The representative of the Russian Federation expressed his support for the statements made by China and stated that, while his delegation was in favour of allowing civil society to speak in any Committee, he was not aware of any practice whereby a Member State could cede the floor to a civil society organization. Instead, he suggested that, if the organization was in consultative status, it could distribute its statement or the delegation of Uruguay could deliver the statement on its behalf.

50. The representative of China reiterated his call for the opinion of the legal adviser on the matter and expressed the view that "no prohibition" in the rules of procedure regarding a Member State ceding its right to speak to civil society did not mean "permission" to do so, while the representative of the Russian Federation maintained that his delegation would support the right of civil society to speak only if it was in accordance with the rules of procedure.

51. The representative of Uruguay then stated that, since China and the Russian Federation objected to her country's ceding its place to an NGO, she would call for a vote.

52. Following these statements, a roll-call vote was requested by Uruguay, in accordance with rule 59 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, to allow it to cede its right to Amnesty International to make a statement at that time. On a point of order, the representative of the United States requested clarification of what was being voted on, and stated that she was concerned that the delegations were hiding behind semantics on the vote. She therefore proposed two separate votes, to move beyond the semantics of ceding the floor versus whether a member of civil society could speak: the first vote to determine whether the delegation of Uruguay would be allowed to cede the floor to the civil society organization to speak and the second vote on whether the civil society organization could speak then.

53. Before the vote, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran reminded the Committee of its mandate and its workload, saying that the mandate should not go beyond the granting of consultative status to NGOs. In his delegation's view, it was the prerogative of every Member State to give its speaking slot to anyone as a representative, provided that that representative was part of the delegation of that country, sitting behind the nameplate of that country. Since that was not the case in the instance in question, his delegation would be voting against the proposal.

54. The representative of the United States underlined that it was extremely important for the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to hear from civil society, since it was the mandate of the Committee to accredit civil society to speak within the United Nations and to facilitate its participation through that formal process. That was why her delegation wished to encourage other Committee members to vote for allowing a member of civil society to speak.

55. The representative of India explained that his delegation believed in the right of anyone to designate any person as a member of his or her delegation and to authorize him or her to speak on behalf of the delegation. However, in the case in question, a member of an intergovernmental body was asking to authorize a non-member civil society organization to speak, which was venturing into uncharted territory. He emphasized that his delegation had been requesting that the matter be discussed further in order to arrive at a consensus rather than proceed in a rushed manner. He believed that, while no member of the Committee had a right to cede its right to speak, his delegation would have been amenable if the floor had been given to a member of the delegation of that member's seat to make the statement. He added that his delegation could not accept ceding the floor to someone who was not a part of the delegation, which was why he would vote against the proposal.

56. The representative of Greece expressed his delegation's support for the right of Amnesty International to take the floor to make a statement, as Uruguay had requested, stating that hearing an NGO make a statement added value to the work of the Committee. He went on to say that, as had already been clarified, there was no provision prohibiting an NGO from making a statement during the opening session of the Committee, especially when a member had requested it, which was why his

delegation would vote in favour of the request of Uruguay and encouraged all the delegations to do the same.

57. The proposal to allow Uruguay to cede its right to Amnesty International to speak then under rule 59 of the rules of procedure was rejected by a roll-call vote of 14 to 4. Of the 19 members of the Committee, 18 were present and voting. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Greece, Israel, United States, Uruguay

Against:

Azerbaijan, Burundi, China, Cuba, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritania, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Absent:

Guinea

58. Following the vote, the representative of the Russian Federation thanked everyone who voted against the proposal because, he said, it would have undermined everything that the Committee had built up over the decades, emphasizing that no country was against civil society but that his delegation objected to being manipulated by means that were far removed from the interests of civil society. He added that, while the organization in question, Amnesty International, had a decent reputation, what had transpired that day at the Committee reflected negatively on the organization.

59. After the vote, the representative of Turkey stated that her country attached importance to the participation of civil society in the work of the United Nations and its bodies, including the NGO Committee, and that her delegation did not consider the vote as a vote on the participation of civil society at the United Nations or in the Committee. She clarified, however, that the discussion prior to the vote, as well as most of the explanations of the vote, indicated that more consultation was necessary, since it was a new matter, not only from a substantive point of view but also from the perspective of the rules of procedure and of working methods and practices, including of the Committee.

60. At the 18th meeting, on 22 May, the representative of the United States stated that she would prefer not to have to call another vote and again asked the Committee members to allow the organization to speak, as had previously been done during the May 2016 session, after long and intensive discussions. When China and the Russian Federation objected, the United States called for a vote to allow a Council-accredited NGO to speak then, under agenda item 6 (c).

61. In response to the request by the United States, the representative of the Russian Federation requested a no-action motion on the proposal, in accordance with rule 50 of the Council's rules of procedure.

62. The Secretariat explained to the Committee that a motion for adjournment of debate under rule 50 of the Council's rules of procedure could be called by a Committee member at any time on the item under discussion and that permission to speak on the motion would be accorded only to two representatives favouring and to two opposing the adjournment, without any explanation of the vote, after which the motion would be put to the vote immediately.

63. The representative of China stated that his delegation supported the motion put forth by the Russian Federation.

64. The representative of Greece stated that, as a matter of principle, his delegation objected to a no-action motion because it did not facilitate substantive discussions and did not help the work of the Committee. In agreeing with Greece, the representative of the United States stated that her vote had been called in order to engage in a substantive discussion, whereas a call for a no-action motion on the debate was designed to stop the substantive discussion. She reminded the Committee that there was already a precedent allowing the floor to be ceded to a member of civil society to speak and that a no-action motion would be going back on that precedent.

65. The representative of the Russian Federation explained that, while his delegation was in favour of civil society participation in the Committee, he was categorically opposed to civil society being used by some countries to further their political interests and there should be a consensus decision on the matter that satisfied all members of the committee.

66. The Chair then explained that a vote in favour of the motion to adjourn the debate would mean rejecting the proposal by the representative of the United States, while a vote against the motion would mean that the proposal would remain before the Committee and that the Committee would proceed to take action on it afterwards.

67. The no-action motion to adjourn the debate under rule 50 of the rules of procedure was adopted by a roll-call vote of 13 to 4, with 1 abstention. Of the 19 members of the Committee, 18 were present and voting. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Azerbaijan, Burundi, China, Cuba, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritania, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Greece, Israel, United States of America, Uruguay

Abstaining:

Turkey

Absent:

Guinea

68. At the conclusion of the vote, the observer for Mexico took the floor to state that his delegation was distressed by the procedure that had just taken place because it violated rule 62 of the rules of procedure, which stated that a delegation that submitted a motion could not speak in support of it. Moreover, he stated that the vote ran counter to the spirit of the United Nations and that his delegation hoped it did not constitute a precedent.

69. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela explained that her delegation supported the motion because she felt that consultations among Committee members were necessary in order to reach consensus on its working methods before establishing precedents. The representative of the Russian Federation echoed the words of the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and advocated the need to reach an understanding on the challenging and sensitive issue of allowing civil society organizations to speak to the Committee. He elaborated on the need to develop principles and criteria for their participation.

70. The representative of India maintained that his delegation viewed civil society as an important partner of the United Nations. However, he expressed concern about the manner in which decisions were being precipitated regarding the working

methods of the Committee, without prior consultation and without considering the long-term implications of those decisions. The representative of China concurred with that statement, maintaining that decisions by the Committee should be made by consensus and should avoid calling for votes.

71. At the 29th meeting, on 31 May, the representative of Cuba emphasized the need for formal discussions on item 6, pertaining to the methods of work of the Committee during its sessions. The Chair stressed the need to accelerate the work of the Committee and to allow for time to engage in such discussions. He suggested informal discussions on the matter at a later date, prior to the 2018 regular session of the Committee.

Statements by non-governmental organizations at the 2017 session of the Council

72. At its 17th meeting, held on 22 May, the Committee took note of the requests submitted by nine non-governmental organizations in consultative status to be heard by the Council at its 2017 session, as contained in conference room paper E/C.2/2017/CRP.16, as follows:

Centre européen de recherche et de prospective politique (special, 2015)

International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation (special, 2006)

International Federation of Medical Students Associations (special, 2003)

IOGT International (special, 2011)

IUS PRIMI VIRI International Association (special, 2004

La manif pour tous (special, 2016)

Legião da Boa Vontade (general, 1999)

Rural Development Institute (special, 2016)

Yakutia — Our Opinion (special, 2012)

Statements by non-member States of the Committee

73. At the 17th meeting, on 22 May, the observer for the European Union made a statement regarding the indispensable contribution of members of civil society to the work of the United Nations, from policymaking to their readiness to "speak truth to power", which he cited as critical to the health of democracy and decision-making. He stated that the diversity of the organizations to be considered for accreditation was a testimony to their vital role, which made the duties exercised by members of the NGO Committee of considerable importance and interest to States Members of the United Nations, observers and the wider world. He further stated that the European Union and its member States strongly supported all efforts to make the work of the Committee fairer and more transparent and welcomed the decision by the Economic and Social Council in April to webcast the proceedings of the Committee. He stressed the importance of fairness in the proceedings of the Committee, based on Council resolution 1996/31, and urged the Committee to avoid the repeated deferment of applications on unjust grounds to bolster the credibility of its deliberations and decisions.

74. The observer for Austria stated that the Committee was a crucial body for NGO participation in the work of the United Nations and that it was therefore important for civil society representatives to address the Committee. To that end, the observer expressed his delegation's appreciation of the efforts made by the delegation of Uruguay to support civil society.

75. The observer for Chile highlighted the recent initiative taken by his country, with the support of Mexico and Uruguay, to draft a decision at the Council in April to webcast the proceedings of the Committee. He explained that the move was designed to help to improve the working methods of the Committee and to make the work of the United Nations more accessible to civil society. He affirmed his country's belief that the participation of NGOs in United Nations processes was essential for the work of the Organization and that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development relied heavily on the support and partnership of NGOs for their effective implementation. To that end, he pointed to the unique position occupied by the Committee in facilitating and encouraging NGO participation, which was why, he said, it was necessary to inject greater transparency and accountability into its proceedings. He expressed hope that, henceforth, the webcasts would make the sessions accessible to all applicants and enable NGOs, especially those from developing countries, to follow the proceedings and observe the decision-making process from all corners of the world.

76. The observer for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland stated that his country's position was fully aligned with the statement made by the observer for the European Union. He, too, welcomed the Council decision taken in April to webcast all public meetings of the Committee and hoped that that modest step would help to facilitate the participation of NGOs from around the globe, particularly for those who could not afford to come to New York to observe the proceedings. He stated that the United Kingdom placed great importance on the protection of civil society space at the United Nations, enabling NGOs to bring their expertise, new ideas and valuable perspectives to the development agenda. He further stated that his country felt the clear need for the Council to have a body to review the large volume of applications received from NGOs for consultative status but that it should be one that did so with the clear goal of facilitating greater NGO access to the United Nations and its work, not restricting it. He emphasized the need for the Committee to embody the principles of non-discrimination, equality, participation, transparency and accountability, as embodied in resolution 1996/31, but which, he said, were not always reflected in the actions of the Committee. He expressed particular concern about applications that languished in the Committee for years, while others were rejected by the body without good cause, necessitating the reversal of some decisions by the Council. He highlighted in particular the high rate of deferral of applications from NGOs that work in human rights, which he said was of great concern, since human rights was one of the fundamental pillars of the United Nations, and the granting of consultative status to those NGOs was vital to the credibility of the Committee.

VI. Consideration of special reports and complaints by Member States

77. There were no special reports for the Committee's consideration at the session.

VII. Provisional agenda and documentation of the 2018 session of the Committee

78. At its 29th meeting, on 31 May, the Committee considered agenda item 9, Provisional agenda and documentation for the 2018 session of the Committee, and had before it the draft provisional agenda for its 2018 session (E/C.2/2017/L.1).

79. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to recommend to the Council the following dates for the sessions in 2018: from 29 January to 7 February and on

23 February for its 2018 regular session, and from 21 to 31 May and on 11 June for its 2018 resumed session.

VIII. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

80. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations held its 2017 resumed session from 22 to 31 May and on 12 June. The Committee held 14 meetings.

B. Attendance

81. The session was attended by all 19 members of the Committee. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, observers for non-member States and representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and of non-governmental organizations also attended. The list of participants will be issued in document E/C.2/2017/INF/2.

82. At its 2017 resumed session, the Committee heard 20 representatives of non-governmental organizations, who were given the opportunity to respond to questions raised by the Committee. The additional information provided by the representatives facilitated the debate and the work of the Committee in taking its decisions.

C. Election of officers

83. At its 17th meeting, on 22 May, the Committee elected Mr. Hassan Idriss Ahmed Salih (Sudan) as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

D. Agenda

84. The agenda (E/C.2/2017/1) for the 2017 regular and resumed sessions reads as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:
   (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee;
   (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification;
   (c) Applications of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status.
4. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council:
   (a) Deferred quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council;

(b) Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council.

5. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.

6. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, including the process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations, and Council decision 1995/304:

(a) Process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations;

(b) Consideration of issues on the agenda of the informal working group;

(c) Other related matters.

7. Consideration of special reports.

8. General voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network.

9. Provisional agenda and documentation for the 2018 session of the Committee.

10. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

E. Documentation

85. The documents before the Committee at its 2017 regular and resumed session are available on the Paperless Committee System.

IX. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its 2017 resumed session

86. At its 29th meeting, on 31 May 2017, the Committee took note of the draft report and authorized the Rapporteur to finalize the report with the support of the Secretariat and in consultation with the members of the Committee, as appropriate, with a view to its submission to the Economic and Social Council for appropriate action.

87. At its 30th meeting, on 12 June 2017, the Committee adopted the present report.